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at least one hawser having a first end operatively coupled to the tank at a location below the water surface and a second end adapted to be accessible from the water surface and attachable to the tanker to anchor the tanker during offtake operations.

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23. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the storage tank is a pressure balanced vessel having a box-shaped configuration with a web-framed steel structure and stable flotation for open-water tow.

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30. (Amended) An oil storage and offtake system, comprising:
a storage tank attachable to a seabed and adapted to store hydrocarbons therein;
at least one offload line having a first end coupled to and in fluid communication with the tank proximal a top of the tank and a second end adapted to be fluid coupled to a tanker and accessible from a water surface; and
at least one hawser having a first end operatively coupled to the tank at a location below the water surface and a second end adapted to be accessible from the water surface and attachable to the tanker to anchor the tanker during offtake operations.

REMARKS

Disposition of the Claims

Claims 1-30 are pending in the application. Claims 1 and 30 have been amended to clarify that the invention includes at least one hawser having a first end operatively coupled to the tank at a location below the water surface. Support for this amendment is found at least in Figures 3, 4, 7, 9 and 10, as well as in the accompanying descriptions in the specification. Claim 23 has been amended for clarity to recite that the storage tank has stable flotation for open-water tow. This amendment is supported at least at paragraph 31 of the specification. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments.